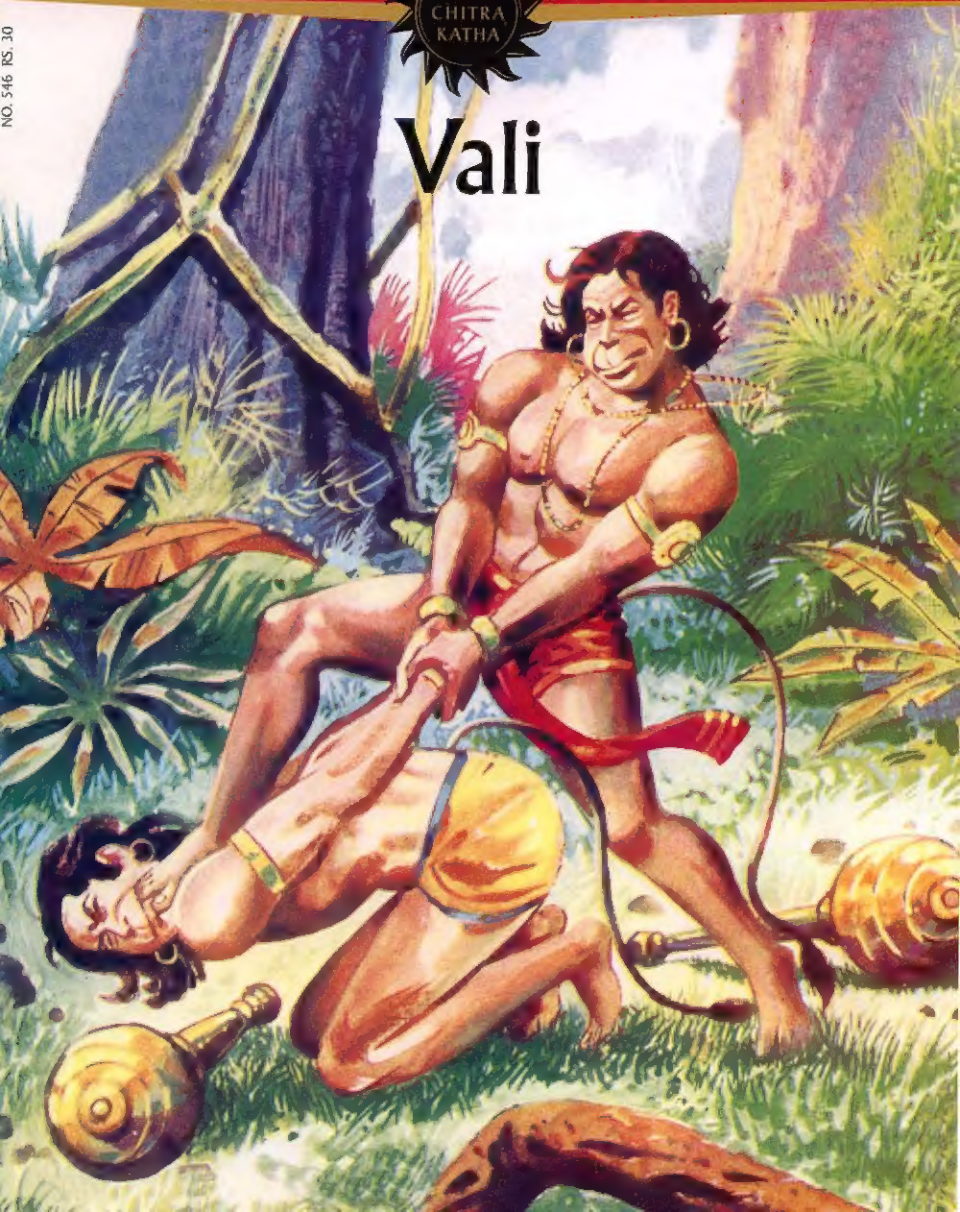




Vali





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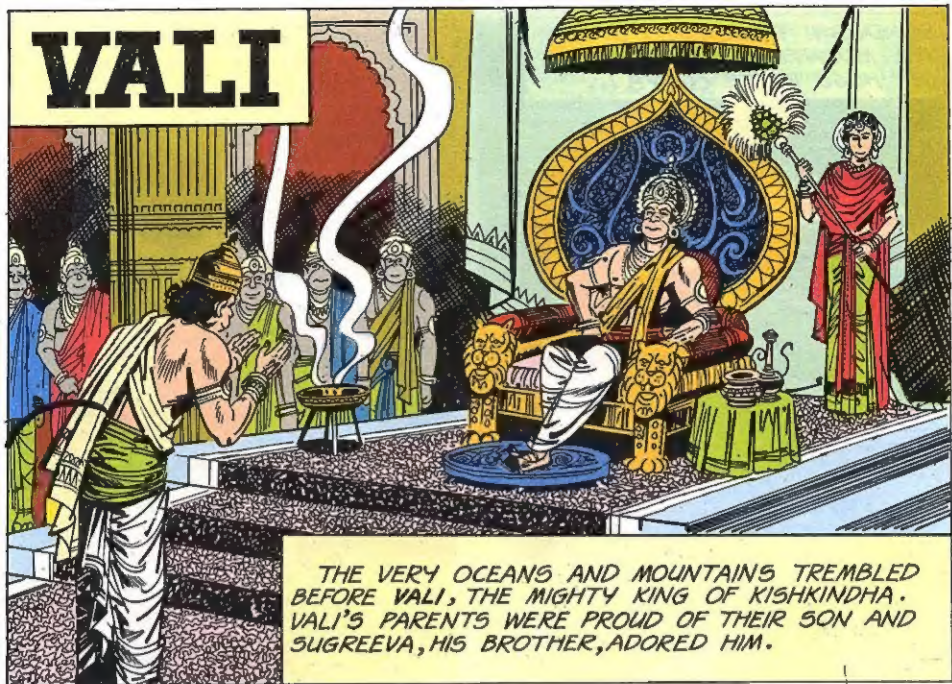
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VALI



THE VERY OCEANS AND MOUNTAINS TREMBLED BEFORE VALI, THE MIGHTY KING OF KISHKINDHA. VALI'S PARENTS WERE PROUD OF THEIR SON AND SUGREEVA, HIS BROTHER, ADORED HIM.

AT THAT TIME, THERE LIVED A RAKSHASA CALLED DUNDUBHI WHO CONSIDERED HIMSELF THE MIGHTIEST OF ALL CREATION. ONE DAY, HE WENT TO THE OCEAN, SPOILING FOR A COMBAT. BUT —



HA! HA!
THE OCEAN
HOLDS ME
IN DREAD.

I CANNOT TAKE
YOU ON. HOWEVER,
I KNOW OF ONE
WHO SHOULD BE
ABLE TO—HIMAVAN,
THE KING OF THE
MOUNTAINS. GO
TO HIM.

DUNDUBHI THUNDERED UP TO THE MOUNTAIN AND BREAKING OFF HUGE WHITE CLIFFS ...



... ROARED WITH GLEE, AS HE DASHED THEM TO THE PLAIN BELOW.



HIMAVAN WAS ALARMED.



WHY DO YOU TORMENT ME, THE REFUGE OF PEACE-LOVING SOULS ?

IF YOU DON'T HAVE THE STRENGTH TO FIGHT ME, THEN TELL ME WHO HAS. I WILL ENTER INTO COMBAT WITH HIM.



TRANSFORMING HIMSELF INTO A MEAN-LOOKING BUFFALO, DUNDUBHI CHARGED UP TO THE GATES OF KISHKINDHA...



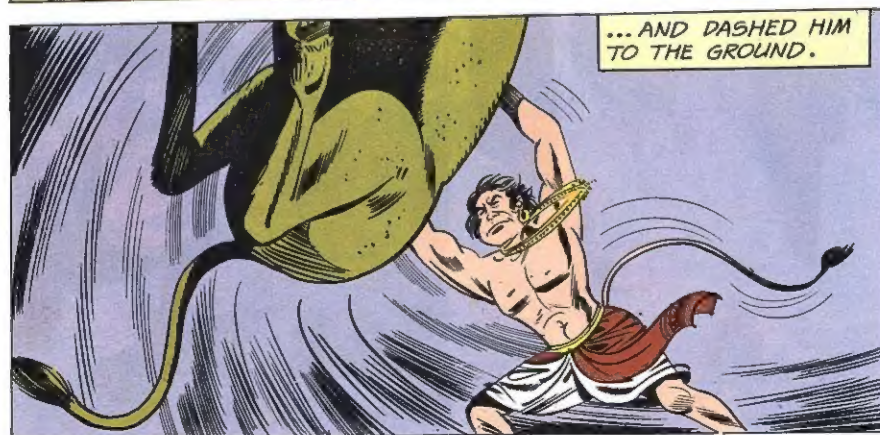
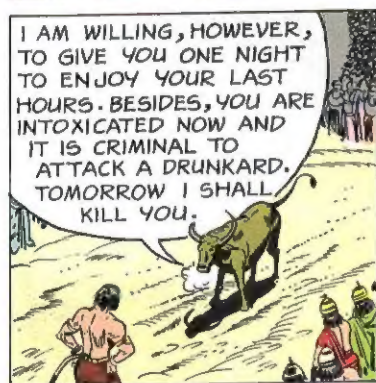
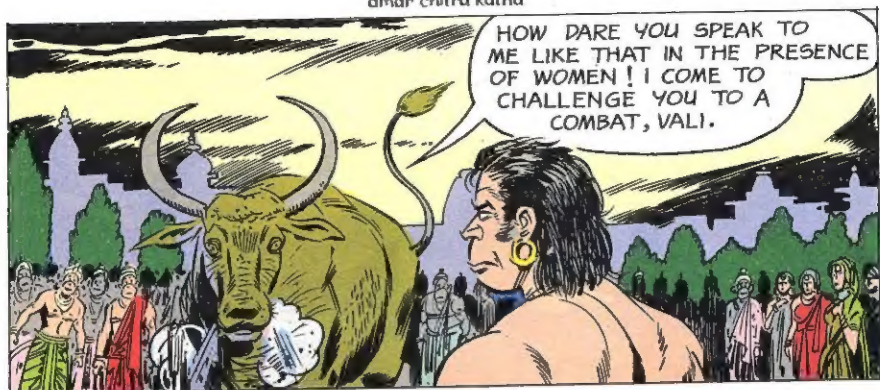
...AND BURST THEM OPEN.

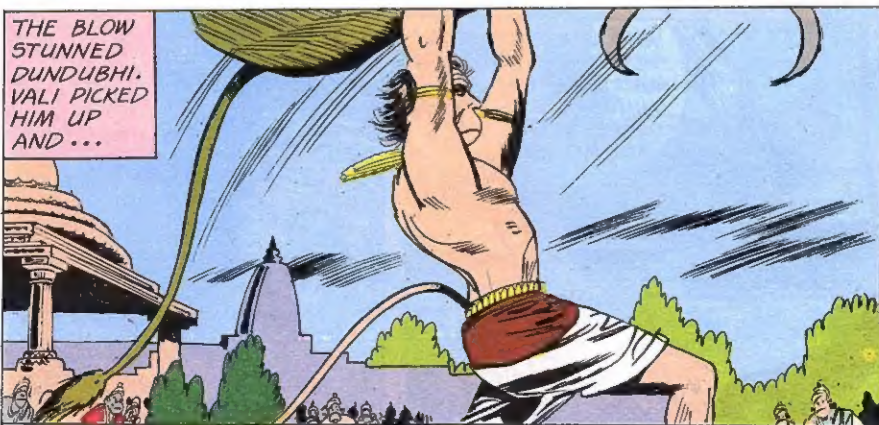
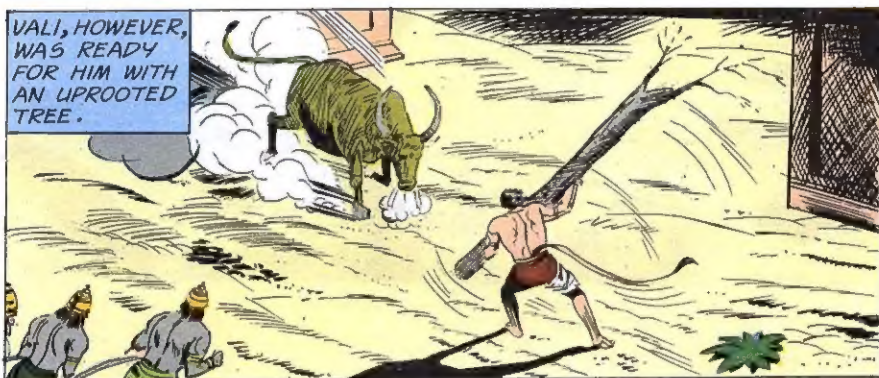
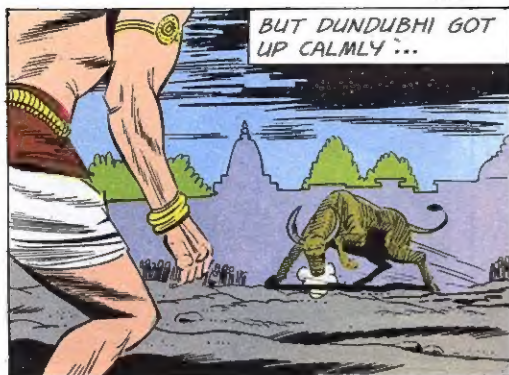


HEARING THE COMMOTION, VALI WHO WAS RELAXING WITH HIS WIVES, RUSHED OUT.

I KNOW IT IS YOU, DUNDUBHI. HOW DARE YOU BELLOW AT THE GATES OF MY CITY! IF YOU VALUE YOUR LIFE ...

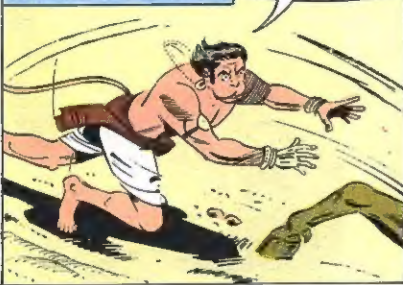




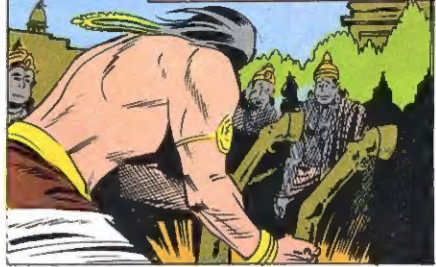


...HURLED HIM TO THE GROUND WITH ALL HIS MIGHT.

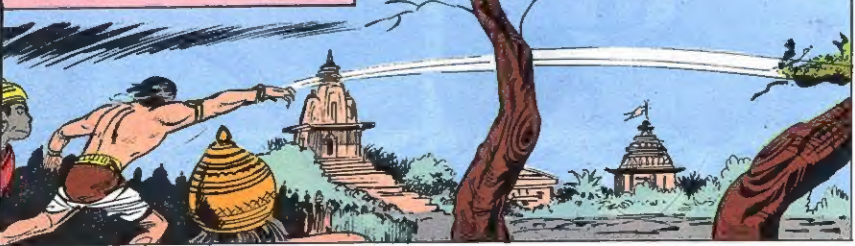
THAT SHOULD FINISH HIM!



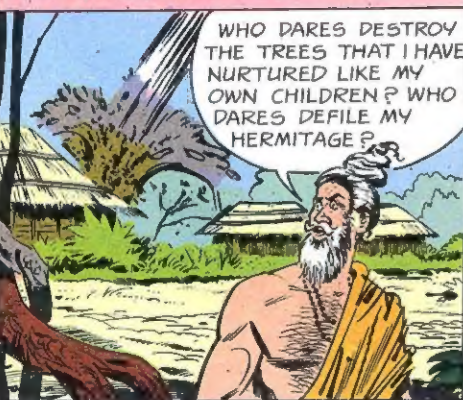
WHEN THE INVINCIBLE DUNDUBHI BREATHED HIS LAST, VALI LIFTED HIS MANGLED CARCASS...



...AND FLUNG IT IN THE AIR.



UNFORTUNATELY FOR VALI, THE CARCASS FELL NEAR RISHI MATANGA'S HERMITAGE, ON THE RISHYAMUKA MOUNTAINS, FOUR MILES AWAY.



WHO DARES DESTROY THE TREES THAT I HAVE NURTURED LIKE MY OWN CHILDREN? WHO DARES DEFILE MY HERMITAGE?

BY HIS YOGIC POWER, THE RISHI DIVINED THAT VALI WAS RESPONSIBLE.

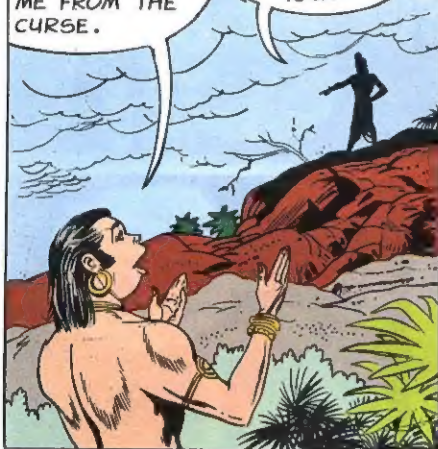


IF THAT MONKEY EVER SETS FOOT HERE, MAY HE DIE.

WHEN VALI LEARNT OF THE IRATE RISHI'S CURSE, HE CAME TO PLEAD WITH HIM.

FORGIVE ME, HOLY ONE. I DID NOT DO IT DELIBERATELY. PLEASE RELEASE ME FROM THE CURSE.

NO. I WILL NOT. YOU HAVE POLLUTED MY RETREAT. I CAN NOT FORGIVE YOU.



VALI RETURNED TO KISHKINDHA. ONE DARK NIGHT, A FEW DAYS LATER —

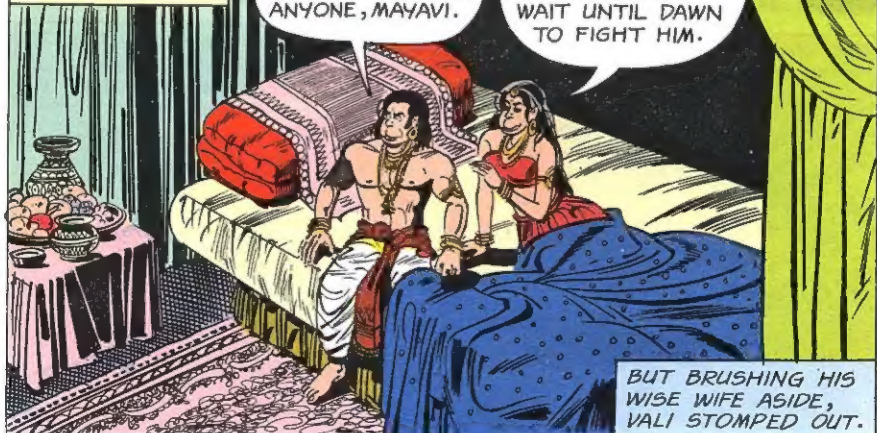
O MIGHTY VALI, I, MAYAVI, THE SON OF DUNDUBHI, DARE YOU TO FIGHT ME.



VALI, WHO WAS SLEEPING, WOKE UP IN A RAGE.

THIS WILL BE THE LAST TIME YOU CHALLENGED ANYONE, MAYAVI.

LORD! RAKSHASAS ARE STRONGER BY NIGHT. PLEASE WAIT UNTIL DAWN TO FIGHT HIM.



BUT BRUSHING HIS WISE WIFE ASIDE, VALI STOMPED OUT.

HEARING THE
COMMOTION,
SUGREEVA, TOO,
WOKE UP AND
LOOKED
QUESTIONINGLY
AT TARA,
VALI'S WIFE.

IT'S MAYAVI!
HE'S THROWN
A CHALLENGE
AND THE KING
HAS GONE
OUT TO
MEET HIM.

AT THIS
HOUR?
I'LL GO
OUT TOO.

WHEN MAYAVI SAW VALI COME OUT, FOLLOWED
CLOSELY BY SUGREEVA—

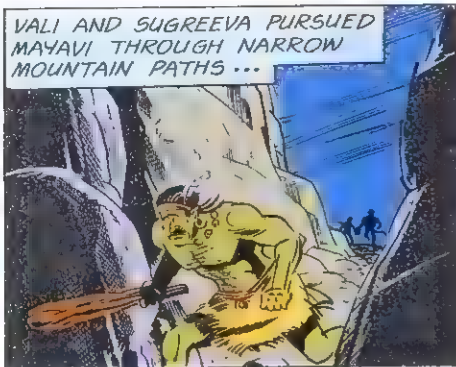
I CAN
TAKE ON
ONE OF
THEM BUT
NOT TWO!

AND MAYAVI FLED IN PANIC.

HE MUST BE TAUGHT A
LESSON. I'M NOT GOING
TO LET HIM ESCAPE,
SUGREEVA.

I AM
COMING
TOO, DEAR
BROTHER.

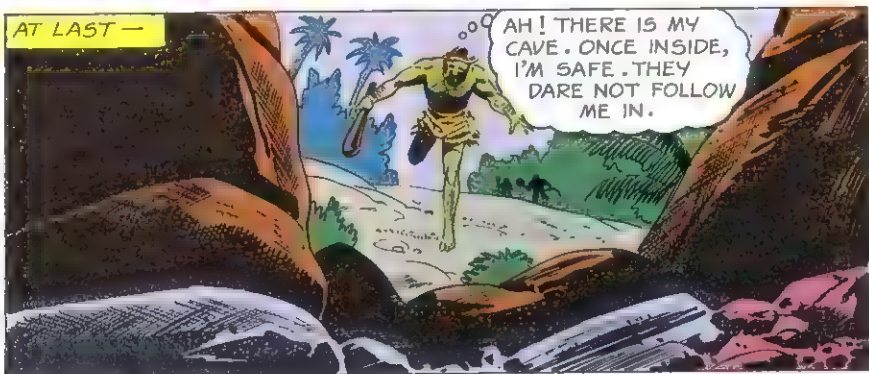
VALI AND SUGREEVA PURSUED
MAYAVI THROUGH NARROW
MOUNTAIN PATHS ...



...AND DENSE FORESTS.



AT LAST —



OH! THERE IS MY
CAVE. ONCE INSIDE,
I'M SAFE. THEY
DARE NOT FOLLOW
ME IN.

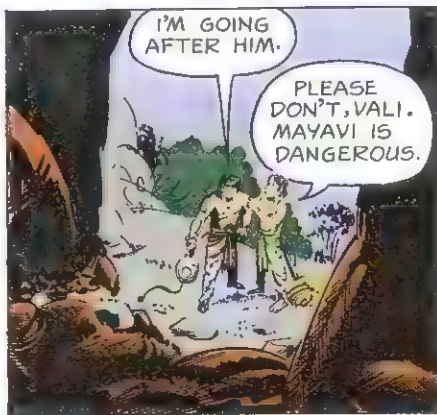
VALI WAS FURIOUS.

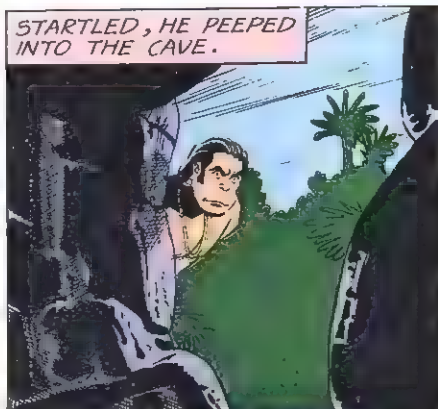
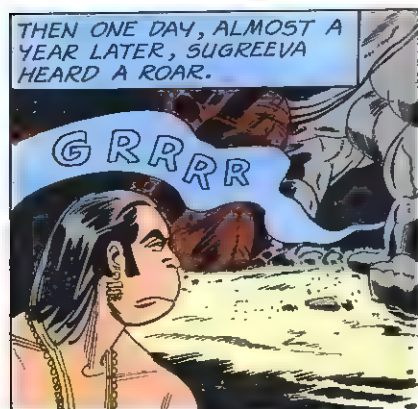
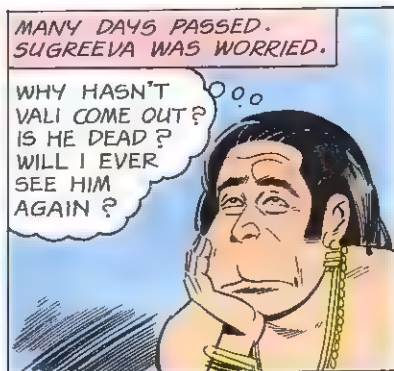
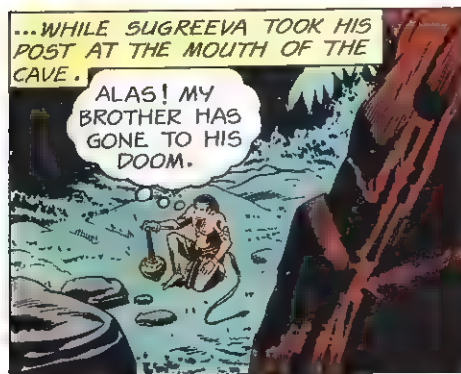
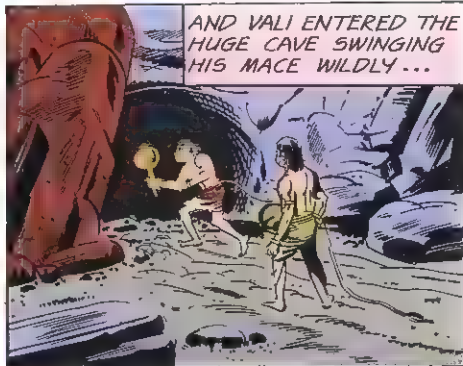
YOU WAIT
HERE AND
GUARD THE
MOUTH OF
THE CAVE,
DEAR
SUGREEVA.



I'M GOING
AFTER HIM.

PLEASE
DON'T, VALI.
MAYAVI IS
DANGEROUS.

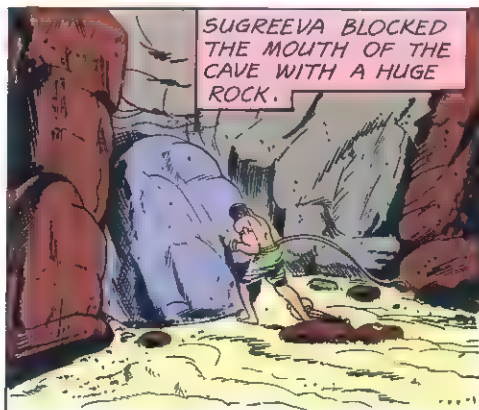
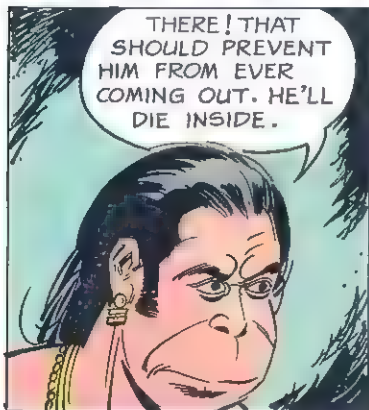
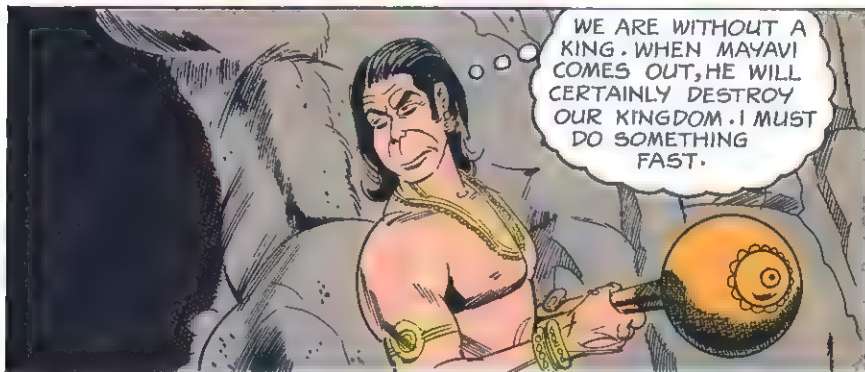




SUDDENLY A
STREAM OF
BLOOD GUSHED
OUT, FOLLOWED
BY ANOTHER
ROAR.

GRPPA

THAT WAS
MAYAVI'S CRY
OF TRIUMPH.
ALAS, HE HAS
KILLED VALI!
I WISH MY
BROTHER HAD
HEEDED MY
WARNING.



INSIDE THE CAVE, HOWEVER—

THERE!! I HAVE
FINISHED THE
SCOUNDREL. I MUST
RUSH OUT!
SUGREEVA MUST
BE ANXIOUS.



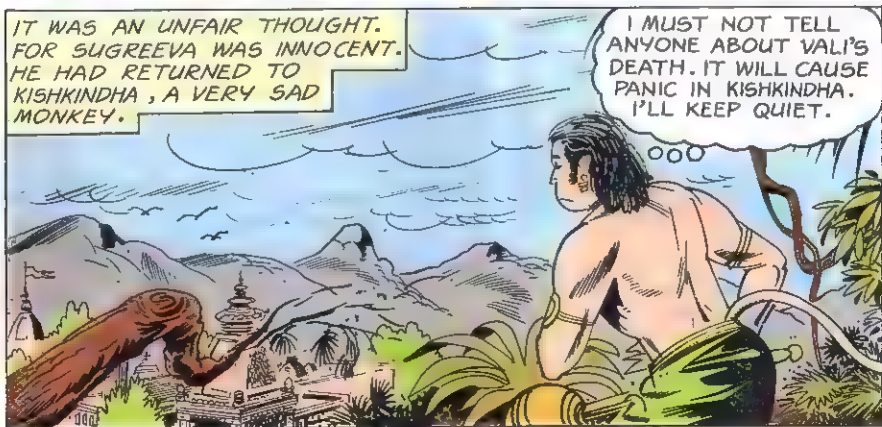
VALI STRODE TRIUMPHANTLY
TOWARDS THE MOUTH OF
THE CAVE. BUT—

THE ENTRANCE!
IT'S BLOCKED!
SUGREEVA HAS
BETRAYED ME
FOR THE
THRONE!



IT WAS AN UNFAIR THOUGHT.
FOR SUGREEVA WAS INNOCENT.
HE HAD RETURNED TO
KISHKINDHA, A VERY SAD
MONKEY.

I MUST NOT TELL
ANYONE ABOUT VALI'S
DEATH. IT WILL CAUSE
PANIC IN KISHKINDHA.
I'LL KEEP QUIET.



HIS FRIEND, HANUMAN, A NOBLE AT THE COURT, APPROACHED HIM ONE DAY —

WHAT IS WRONG, O PRINCE? WHERE IS OUR KING? WHY DO YOU LOOK SO SAD?

SUGREEVA REMAINED SILENT.

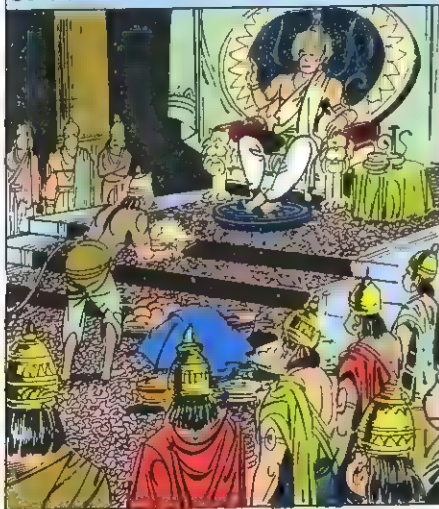
THE THRONE CANNOT REMAIN VACANT. YOU MUST TAKE VALI'S PLACE.

HOW CAN I TAKE MY BROTHER'S PLACE?

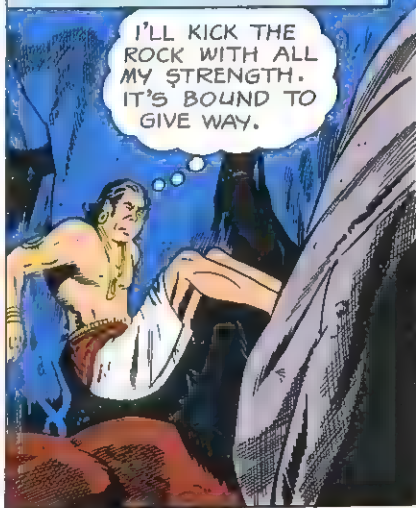
BUT THE NOBLES INSISTED.

ALL RIGHT. FOR THE SAKE OF THE PEOPLE I WILL ASCEND THE THRONE.

SUGREEVA ALLOWED HIMSELF TO BE CROWNED KING. HANUMAN SERVED HIM WELL AS A MINISTER.



MEANWHILE, VALI TRIED IN VAIN TO FIND A WAY OUT OF THE CAVE. AT LAST—

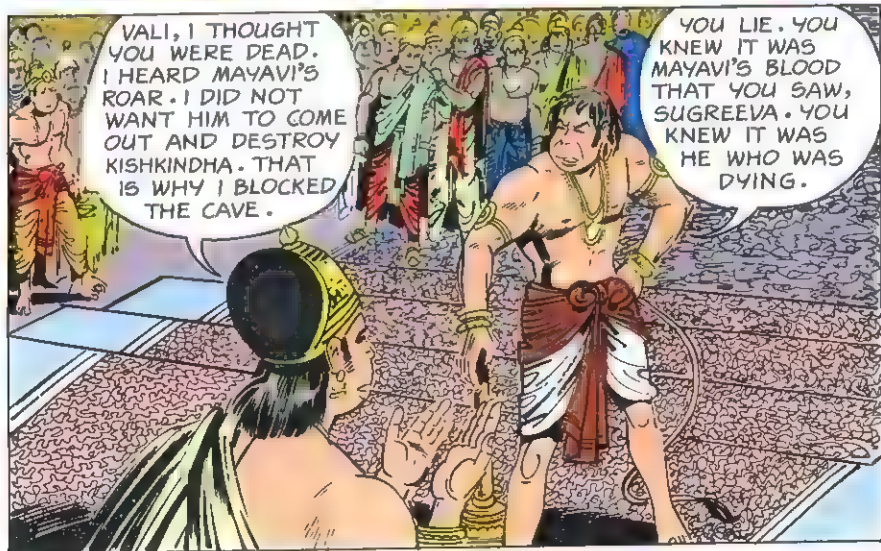


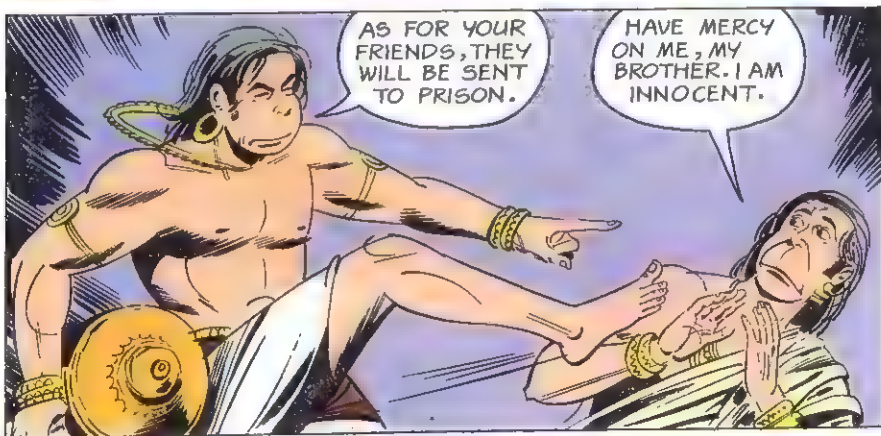
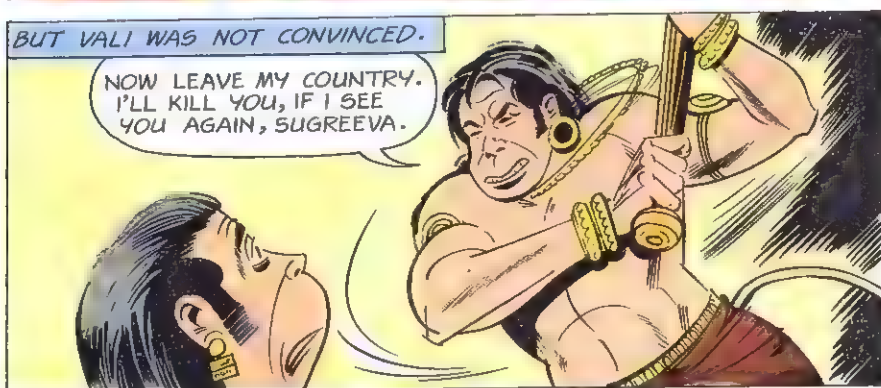
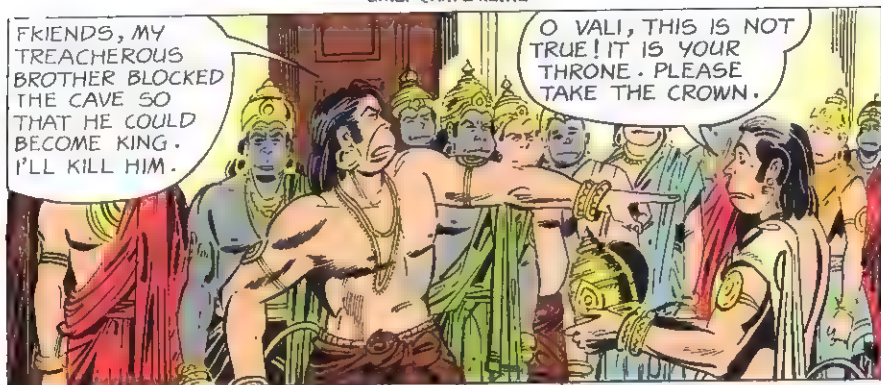
A FEW DAYS LATER —





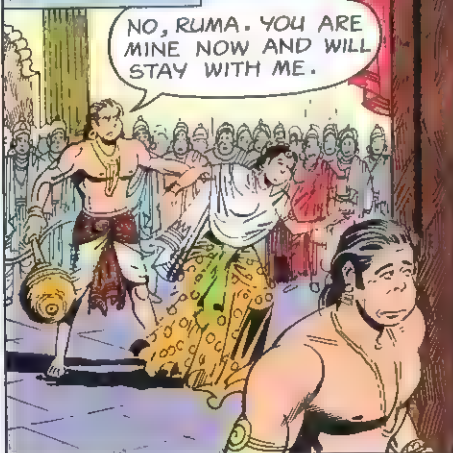
BUT VALI WAS IN NO MOOD FOR LOVING REUNIONS.





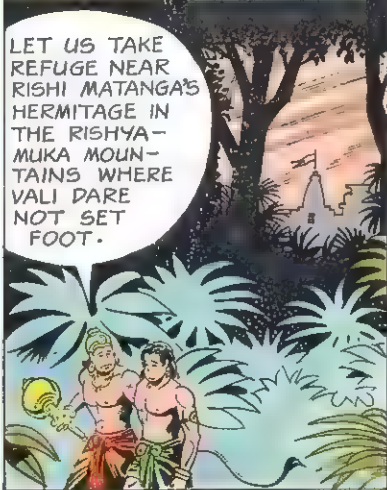
BUT VALI DID NOT RELENT. SUGREEVA HAD TO LEAVE KISHKINDHA. HIS WIFE, RUMA, WAS ABOUT TO FOLLOW HIM WHEN —

NO, RUMA. YOU ARE MINE NOW AND WILL STAY WITH ME.



HANUMAN, HOWEVER, JOINED SUGREEVA AND BOTH LEFT KISHKINDHA.

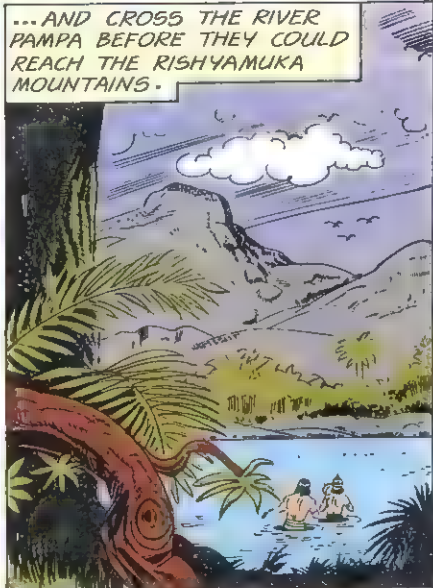
LET US TAKE REFUGE NEAR RISHI MATANGA'S HERMITAGE IN THE RISHYAMUKA MOUNTAINS WHERE VALI DARE NOT SET FOOT.



THEY HAD TO PASS THROUGH DENSE FORESTS ...

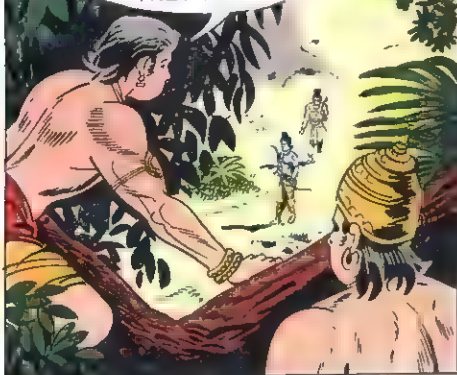


...AND CROSS THE RIVER PAMPA BEFORE THEY COULD REACH THE RISHYAMUKA MOUNTAINS.



ONE DAY, SUGREEVA SAW TWO ARMED YOUTHS APPROACHING.

VALI MUST HAVE SENT THEM TO KILL US. FEAR FILLS MY HEART. GO AS MY ENVOY, HANUMAN. FIND OUT WHO THEY ARE.

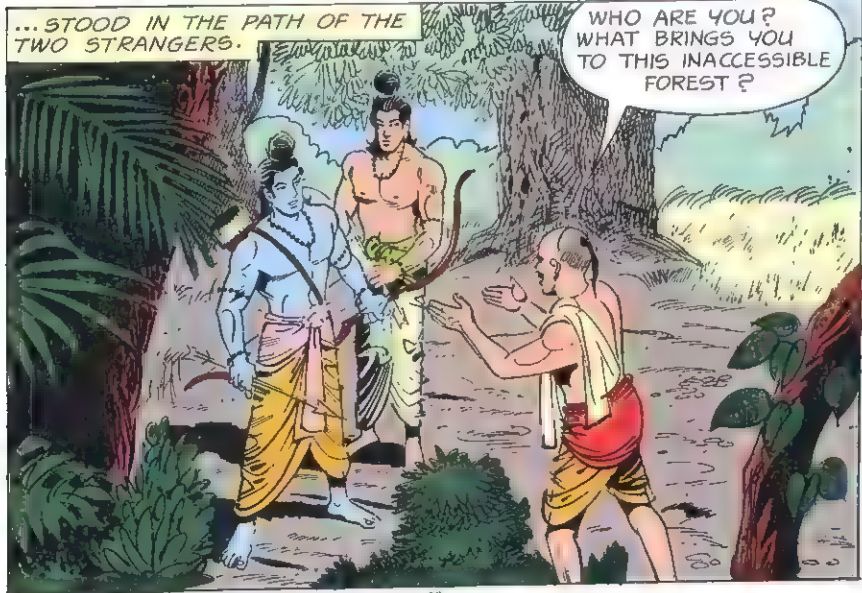


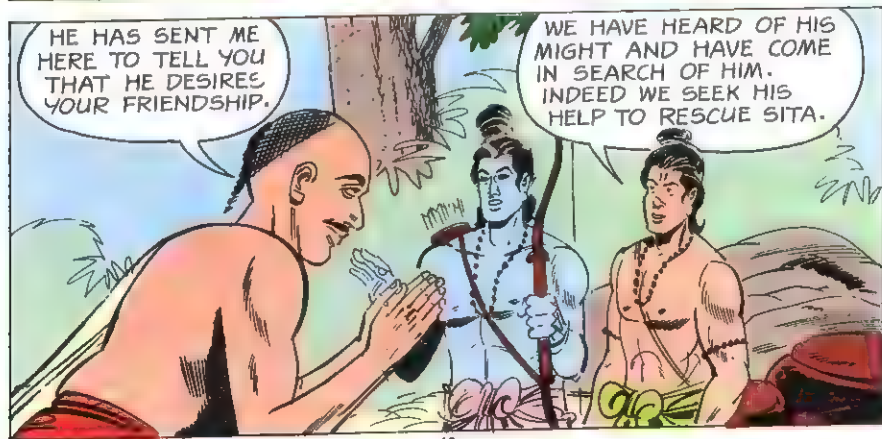
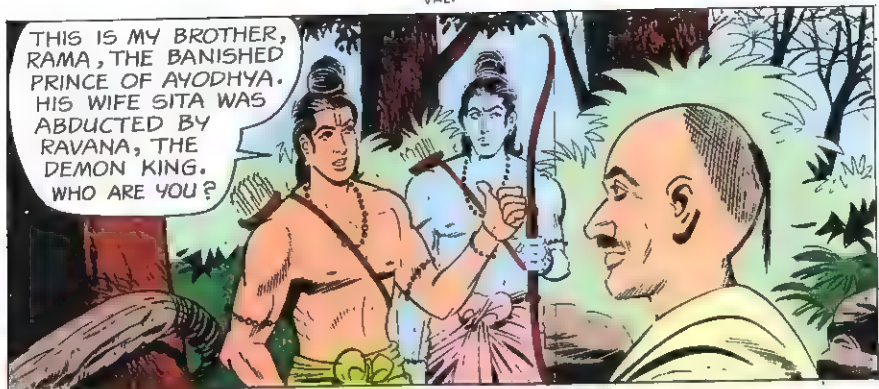
ASSUMING THE GUISE OF A BRAHMAN, HANUMAN WITH ONE MIGHTY LEAP...



...STOOD IN THE PATH OF THE TWO STRANGERS.

WHO ARE YOU? WHAT BRINGS YOU TO THIS INACCESSIBLE FOREST?

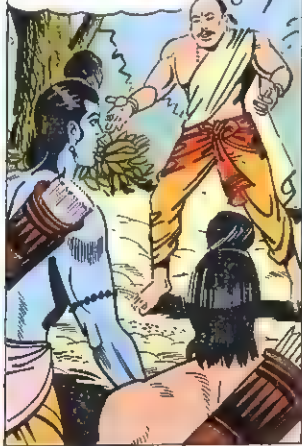




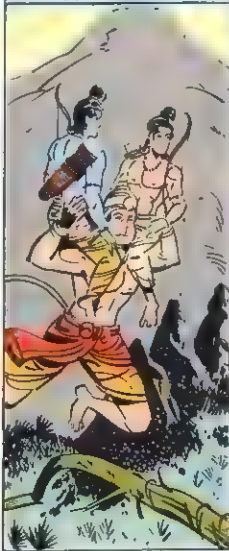
HANUMAN WAS DELIGHTED.

THEN COME, I WILL TAKE YOU TO HIM.

WITH THESE VIRTUOUS, VALIANT PRINCES ON HIS SIDE, SUGREEVA CANNOT BUT REGAIN THE KINGDOM AND HIS WIFE.



THEN HANUMAN ASSUMED HIS OWN FORM AND LIFTING THE TWO BROTHERS ONTO HIS SHOULDERS...



... CARRIED THEM TO SUGREEVA.

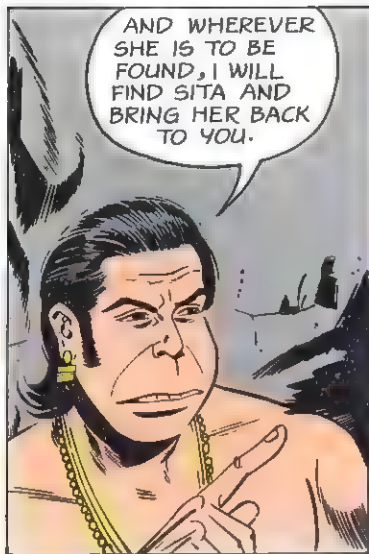


AFTER HANUMAN HAD TOLD SUGREEVA WHO THEY WERE AND WHY THEY HAD COME —

I AM FORTUNATE THAT YOU SEEK MY FRIENDSHIP. I, TOO, NEED YOUR HELP TO KILL VALI AND WIN BACK MY WIFE.

VALI SHALL NOT ESCAPE MY ARROW.

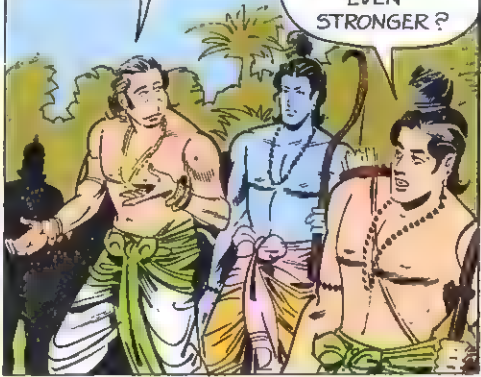




THEN SUGREEVA WARNED RAMA OF VALI'S STRENGTH.

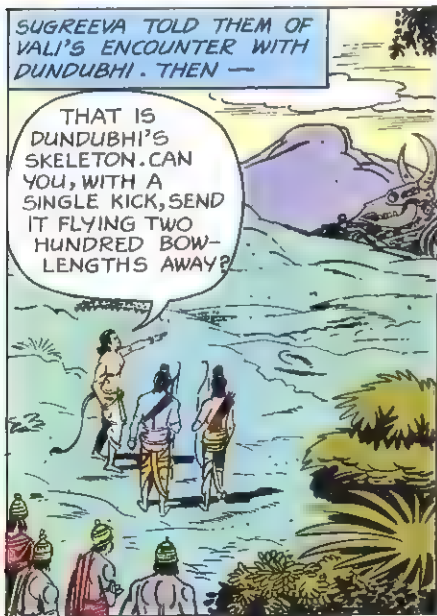
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU WILL OVERCOME HIM.

WHAT CAN RAMA DO TO CONVINCE YOU THAT HE IS EVEN STRONGER?

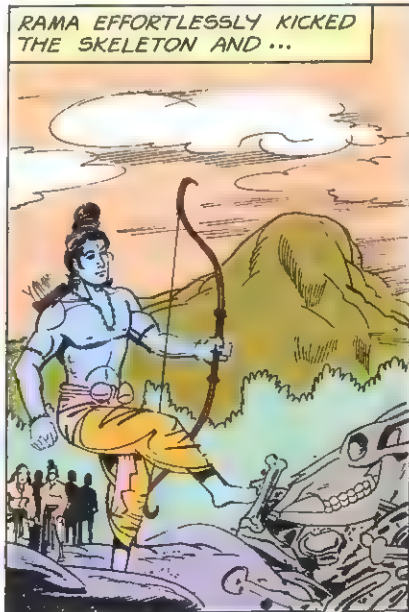


SUGREEVA TOLD THEM OF VALI'S ENCOUNTER WITH DUNDUBHI. THEN —

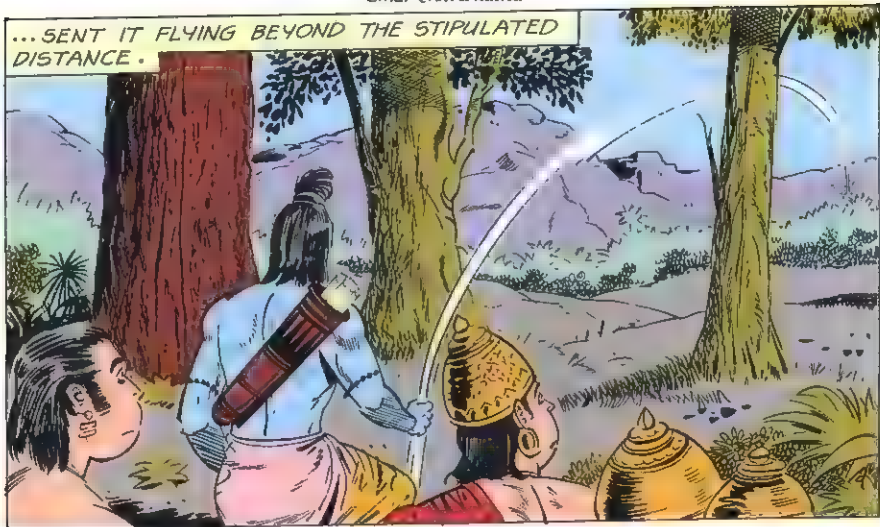
THAT IS DUNDUBHI'S SKELETON. CAN YOU, WITH A SINGLE KICK, SEND IT FLYING TWO HUNDRED BOW-LENGTHS AWAY?



RAMA EFFORTLESSLY KICKED THE SKELETON AND ...

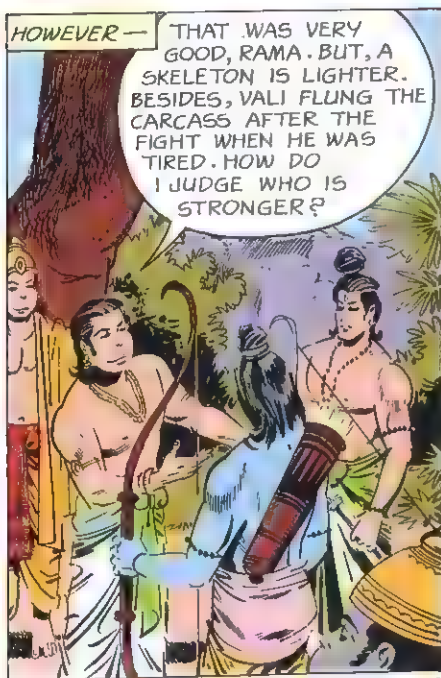


...SENT IT FLYING BEYOND THE STIPULATED DISTANCE.



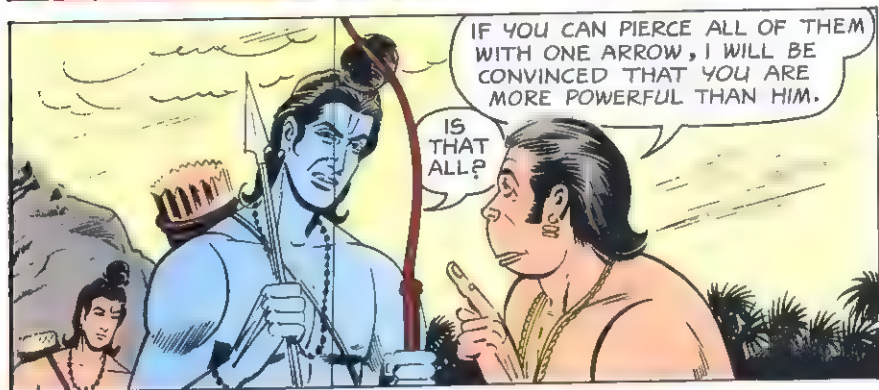
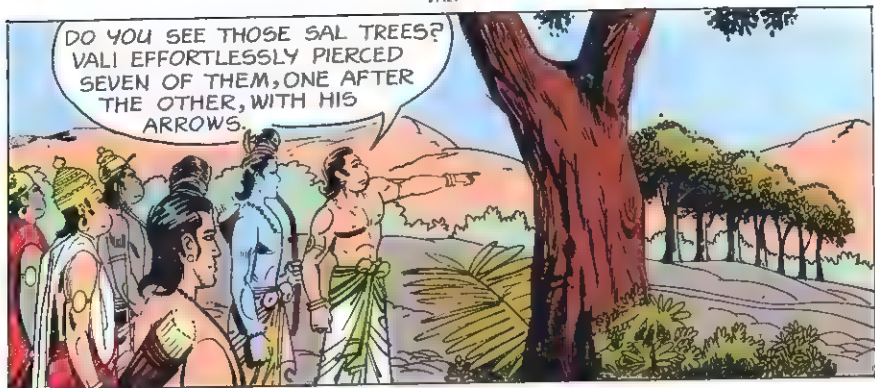
HOWEVER —

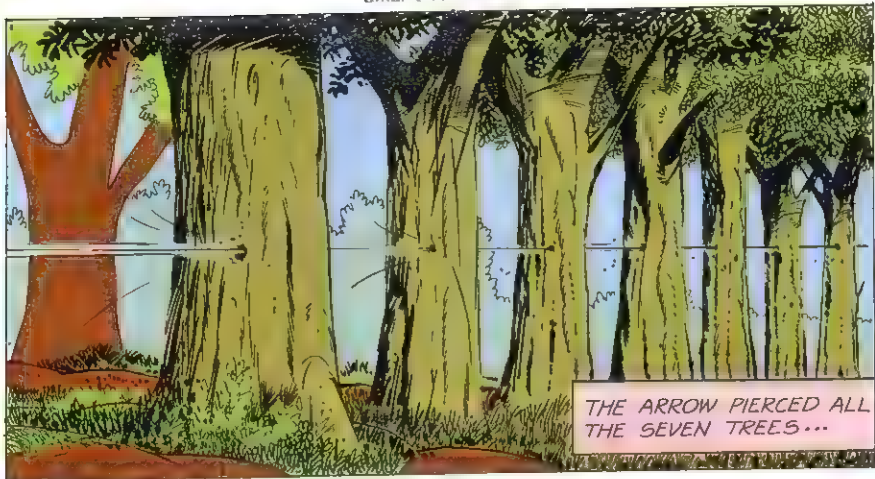
THAT WAS VERY GOOD, RAMA. BUT, A SKELETON IS LIGHTER. BESIDES, VALI FLUNG THE CARCASS AFTER THE FIGHT WHEN HE WAS TIRED. HOW DO I JUDGE WHO IS STRONGER?



AND HOW SHALL I CONVINCE YOU THAT I CAN DEFEAT VALI?



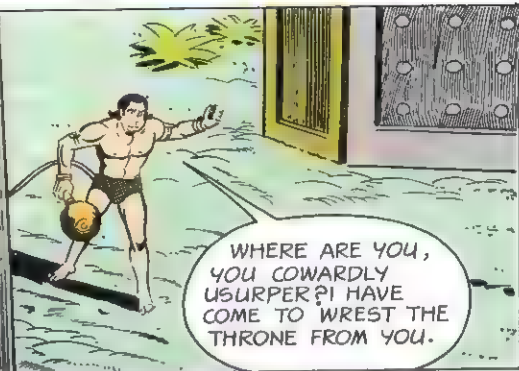




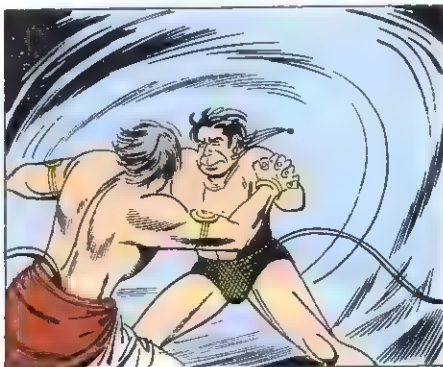
THE ARROW PIERCED ALL
THE SEVEN TREES...



AT KISHKINDHA, RAMA AND LAXMANA HID ON THE BRANCHES OF A TREE WHILE SUGREEVA CHALLENGED VALI.

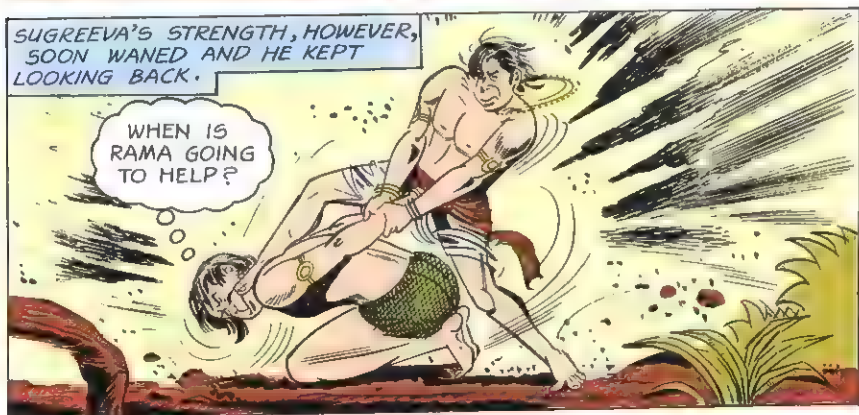


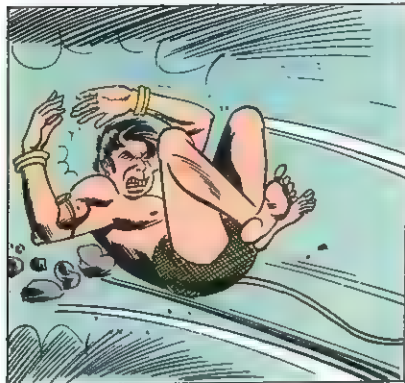
BURNING WITH RAGE, VALI RUSHED OUT TO CONFRONT HIS BROTHER.



SUGREEVA'S STRENGTH, HOWEVER, SOON WANED AND HE KEPT LOOKING BACK.

WHEN IS RAMA GOING TO HELP?





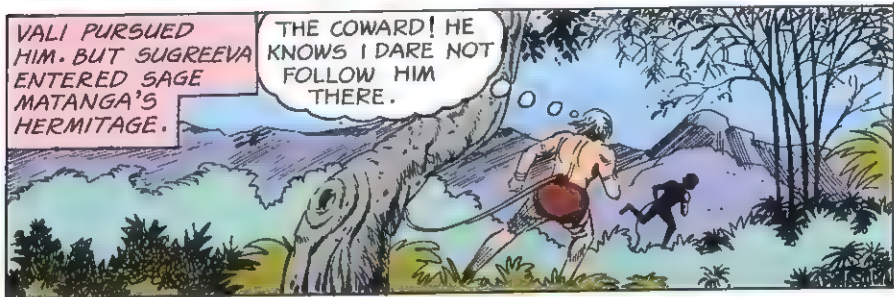
SUDDENLY, SUGREEVA RAN TOWARDS HIS MOUNTAIN HIDEOUT.

RAMA HAS LET ME DOWN. I'D BETTER ESCAPE WHILE I STILL HAVE THE STRENGTH.



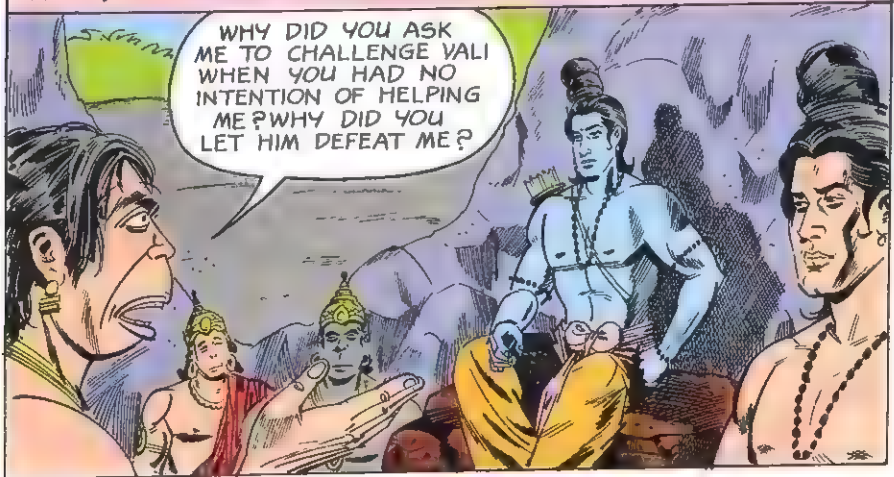
VALI PURSUED HIM. BUT SUGREEVA ENTERED SAGE MATANGA'S HERMITAGE.

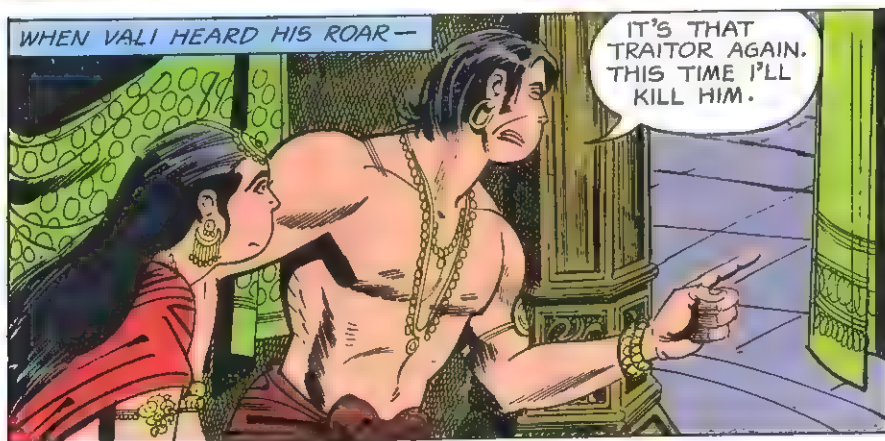
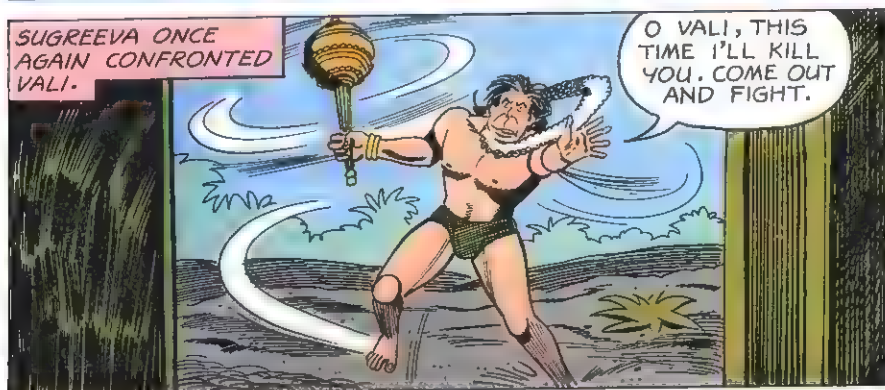
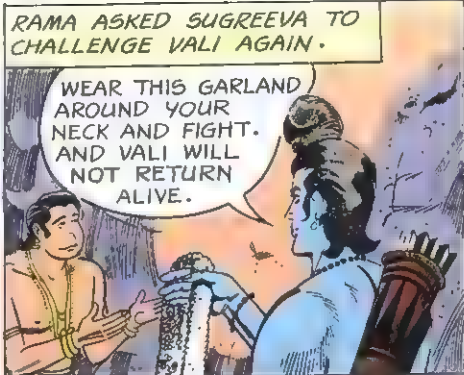
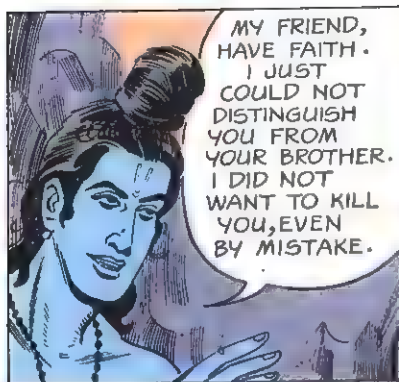
THE COWARD! HE KNOWS I DARE NOT FOLLOW HIM THERE.



LATER, CHOKING WITH EMOTION, SUGREEVA, REPROACHED RAMA.

WHY DID YOU ASK ME TO CHALLENGE VALI WHEN YOU HAD NO INTENTION OF HELPING ME? WHY DID YOU LET HIM DEFEAT ME?

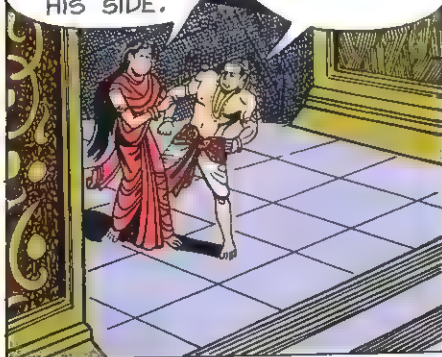




AS VALI WAS ABOUT TO LEAVE THE PALACE TO MEET SUGREEVA—

MY LORD, OUR SPIES TELL ME THAT SUGREEVA HAS TWO FRIENDS FROM AYODHYA ON HIS SIDE.

MY SWEET ONE, DO NOT WORRY. I KNOW WHO THEY ARE. I KNOW THEY WILL NOT INTERFERE.



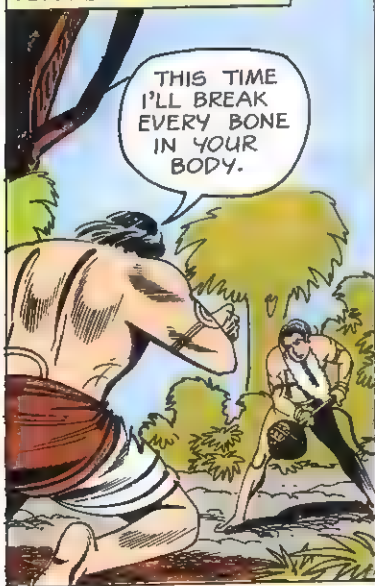
HE IS AFTER ALL YOUR BROTHER. WHY DON'T YOU MAKE PEACE WITH HIM?

I CANNOT. I MUST TEACH HIM A LESSON. BUT I WILL NOT KILL HIM.



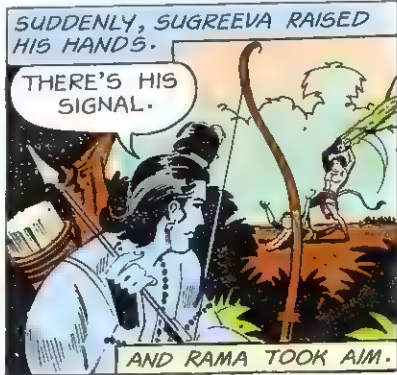
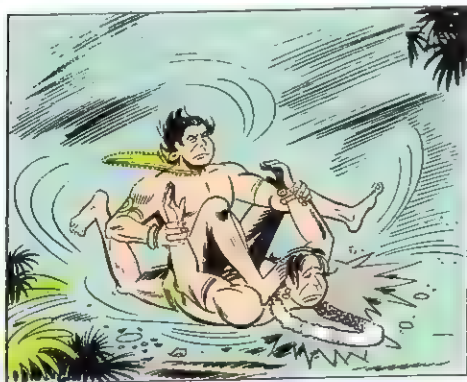
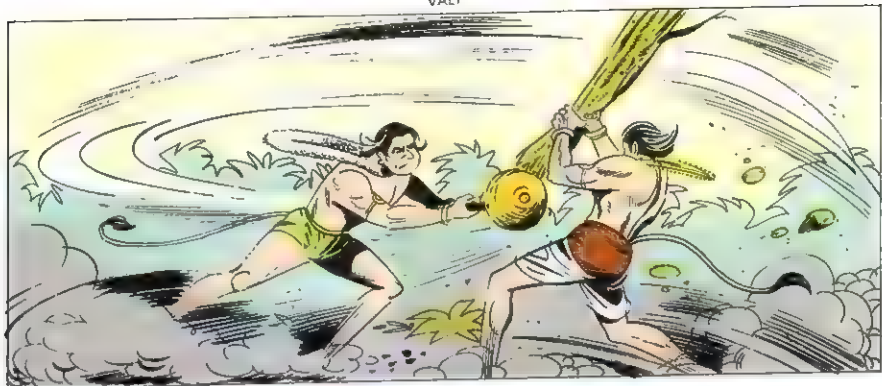
AND VALI ADVANCED TOWARDS SUGREEVA.

THIS TIME I'LL BREAK EVERY BONE IN YOUR BODY.



A FURIOUS FIGHT TOOK PLACE BETWEEN THE TWO BROTHERS.





LATER, WHEN RAMA APPROACHED HIM WITH LAXMANA AND THE OTHERS—

O RAMA, WHAT RIGHT DID YOU HAVE TO KILL ME—
I, WHO HAD FULL FAITH IN
YOUR VIRTUE AND WISDOM?
I HAVE DONE YOU
NO HARM.

I KNOW YOU CAME
TO SUGREEVA FOR
HELP. IF YOU HAD
ONLY ASKED ME
ONCE, I WOULD
HAVE CAPTURED
RAVANA AND
BROUGHT HIM
TO YOU. OH,
WHY DID YOU
INTERFERE IN
OUR FIGHT?

IT IS THE DUTY OF
A KING TO METE OUT
JUSTICE—TO PROTECT
THE OPPRESSED AND
PUNISH THE OPPRESSOR.
YOU HAVE WRONGED
YOUR YOUNGER
BROTHER WHOM
YOU SHOULD
HAVE CHERISHED
AS YOUR SON.
YOU DESERVE
TO DIE.

VALI WAS FULL OF REMORSE WHEN
HE HEARD THOSE WORDS.

I CANNOT BUT ADMIT
THAT WHAT YOU SAY
IS TRUE. PLEASE
FORGIVE ME, RAMA.
DO NOT VISIT MY
SINS UPON MY
BELOVED SON,
ANGADA, OR HIS
WISE MOTHER,
TARA.

DO NOT WORRY,
VALI. SUGREEVA
AND I SHALL
LOVE ANGADA
AS YOU LOVED
HIM.

MEANWHILE, TARA, VALI'S WIFE, AND ANGADA, HIS SON, CAME ON THE SCENE.

MY LORD! O KING! WHY DIDN'T YOU HEED MY WORDS? WHAT AM I TO DO NOW? WHAT WILL THE ANGRY SUGREEVA, WHO HATES US, DO TO ANGADA?

SUGREEVA AND RAMA WILL CARE FOR YOU AND ANGADA, AS I DID.

SUGREEVA, MY HOUR HAS COME. PLEASE FORGIVE ME. I DID NOT KNOW WHAT I WAS DOING.

O VALI, IT WAS YOUR LOVE I ALWAYS WANTED, NOT THE THRONE. YOU NEVER UNDERSTOOD.





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